

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-48. (Canceled)

49. (New) A method of providing a synopsis for a program, the method comprising:

selecting a channel during transmission of a program;

upon request, providing a synopsis of the program from a beginning of the program transmission until the channel was selected.

50. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the synopsis is provided via a second channel.

51. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the synopsis is presented in a fast forward mode.

52. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the synopsis includes highlights of important events.

53. (New) The method of claim 49 wherein the program is a sporting event.

54. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising selecting the highlights from a number of predefined highlights.

55. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising streaming the synopsis for playback from a remote site.

56. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising downloading the synopsis for playback from customer premise equipment (CPE).

57. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising streaming the synopsis over a VOD channel.

58. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising providing the synopsis as text.

59. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising providing the synopsis from a web page stored on a remote server.

60. (New) The method of claim 49 further comprising requiring maintaining the channel selection for a predefined period of time before providing the synopsis

61. (New) An apparatus for providing a synopsis for a program, the apparatus comprising:

a controller for (1) selecting a channel during transmission of a program and (2) upon request, providing a synopsis of the program from a beginning of the program transmission until the channel was selected.

62. (New) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the controller provides the synopsis via a second channel.

63. (New) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the controller provides the synopsis in a fast forward mode.

64. (New) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the controller is configured to provide the synopsis only after maintaining the channel selection for a predefined period.

65. (New) A method of providing a synopsis for a television program, the method comprising:

providing the synopsis if the synopsis is requested after selecting the program while transmission of the program is already in progress; and

generating the synopsis only upon request, the synopsis including at least a summary of the program that was transmitted within a predefined time period prior to selecting the program.

66. (New) A system for broadcasting television programs, the system comprising:

a broadcasting element for broadcasting television programs over a number of channels;

a source for broadcasting synopses of the programs over a number of other channels, wherein the source broadcasts the synopses on-demand when a channel having a synopsis is selected after transmission of the program has begun, the synopsis summarizing the program that was transmitted prior to selecting the channel.

67. (New) The system of claim 61 wherein the source limits the synopsis to the portion of the program transmitted since a last time the channel was selected.

68. (New) The system of claim 61 wherein the source generates the synopsis after the channel is selected.

69. (New) The system of claim 61 wherein the source selects highlights included within the synopsis based on time-stamps associated with the highlights that correspond with time-stamps associated with portions of the program transmitted prior to selecting the channel.

70. (New) The system of claim 61 wherein the source streams the synopsis for playback.

71. (New) The system of claim 61 wherein the source downloads the synopsis for playback.